

February 19, 2014

Orie G. Williams, Chair
Doyon, Limited
1 Doyon Place, Suite 300
Fairbanks, AK 99701

Dear Mr. Williams:

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released its final *Bristol Bay Assessment* in January 2014. Earlier this month, at Alaska Forum on the Environment, we heard from EPA Region 10 Administrator Dennis McClerran that the federal agency will now (in a matter of weeks) use the assessment to respond to requests from those opposed to development in our region for a pre-emptive 404c veto under the *Clean Water Act*.

As you may know, the signatories to this letter have long expressed concern about the Bristol Bay Assessment.

We believe it is an unprecedented and unnecessary EPA intrusion into the well-established state and federal permitting process for resource development in Alaska. We believe it has been rushed and politically motivated from the outset, evaluating a mining project of the EPA's own design without due consideration for modern mining practices or existing regulatory standards. And recently, information has come to light from Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests that demonstrate widespread collusion between EPA and Outside environmental groups in planning and executing the Bristol Bay Assessment (see *Northern Dynasty's January 9, 2014 submission to the EPA Inspector General* attached).

While these serious concerns endure, a communication from principal report author Phil North has recently emerged that for the first time exposes EPA's true agenda in southwest Alaska. In an email written a few months before EPA announced its Bristol Bay Assessment, North argues it is not enough to veto a single mining project in Bristol Bay, but that all mineral development and all road building should be forbidden throughout the 23,000 square mile Nushagak and Kvichak drainages.

He writes:

"I hope at this point everyone has gotten their minds around the idea that our focus is on the resource and not on any particular project. To that end, here are some thoughts about how I might approach a 404c action....

"Not to be predecisional, but looking ahead, of the six Bristol Bay watersheds all but the Nushagak and Kvichak are mostly federal conservation land (wildlife refuge or national park). Nearly all of the Nushagak and much of the Kvichak are state or private land (including tribal), open for development and with little land use planning that targets protection of aquatic resources.... So there are two types of development that have been identified in State of Alaska planning documents.... The first is what drew our attention here, mining. The second is road building."

North's intention is clear in this communication (attached). And EPA is now on the doorstep of announcing its final regulatory decision with respect to the Bristol Bay Assessment study area. We fear that decision will be a comprehensive prohibition on any type of development on some 1.5 million acres of Alaska Native lands and 4.8 million acres of State of Alaska lands throughout the Nushagak and Kvichak drainages.

As an Alaska Native Regional Corporation leader, you should be extremely concerned about the potential alienation of Native lands in southwest Alaska as a result of the EPA's forthcoming action. Not only will it forever remove a substantial portion of Native land and resources from generating 7i and 7j revenues as defined within ANCSA, EPA's pre-emptive action will also set a dangerous precedent for all resource investment in our state.

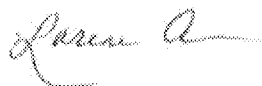
You only have a short time to register your concern about this critical matter. We strongly encourage your corporation to register its opposition to any pre-emptive veto under section 404c of the *Clean Water Act* that would harm the interests of Native landowners in southwest Alaska, to the detriment of all the State's Native people, by writing to EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy as soon as possible.

I will be in touch with you in the next day or so to enquire about the status of this request.

Sincerely,



Mary Jane Nielson
Alaska Peninsula Corporation



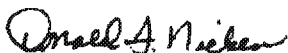
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